10064 Boca Circle Manies, Florida 34100

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I support the settlement reached in the Microsoft antitrust case. The settlement reflects the compromises and concessions of the parties, especially Microsoft, over three months of negotiations with the assistance of a court-appointed mediator. I feel that approval of the settlement by the Federal Court would be in the best public interest of America.

The settlement addresses the complaints brought against Microsoft simply for using all its legal rights. Microsoft's legally protected innovations in its software code for its internal interface and server interoperability protocols will be disclosed to the whole industry, while its other copyrighted and patented intellectual property will be licensed on non-discriminatory terms to any company that wants to use it. Computer makers will be given more flexible contracts to work with non-Microsoft companies like AOL Time Warner, RealNetworks, and Symantec. A technical committee will ensure the terms are followed. These terms will provide an opportunity for the American computer industry to make better use of the very widely used Windows operating system, and will allow Microsoft to get the lawsuit, with its distraction and expense, over with.

I appreciate your strong stand in favor of the Microsoft case settlement. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert Koltun